U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

ENTINE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HIS UNIQUE
DECLASSIFICATION

FEDERAL BUREAU

PO NOT DESCRIPTION AND ARCHIVES

GLASSIFIED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

INVECTICATION

# ATTENTION

BEFORE CHANGING CLASSIFICATION OR PROCESSING ANY DOCUMENT FROM THIS FILE FOR RELEASE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, CONTACT FOI/PA SECTION UNIT D, EXT. 5767.

FBI/DQJ

JE GARBANEHARINGERNSELLE

Transfer-Call 421

#44-HQ-38861

TH- TH-30061

SECTION 35

FRIALS 3221-3352

BUBJECT - Martin Lather King Jr.
PILE 1 - Markin

WORK SHEET - KI:ROX REQUEST

ANALYST - 7tary EXT - 5725 TEAM | - 116 . Sweam Is SAN

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WORK SHEET - KEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - 7tarys EXT - 5775 TEAM 1 - C

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WORK SHEET - KIROX REQUEST

SUBJECT - Martin Lather King Jr.
PILE 1 - Markin

ANALYST - Harp EXT - 5725 TEAM 1 - C

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44-38861	3254	WASH TIT	•	5.	سي				1						Par 6/9/04
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SUBJECT - Martin Luther King Jr.
PILE 1 - Martin Luther

WORK SHEET - KEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - Hays EXT - 5775 TEAM 1 - C

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WORK SHEET - : A:ROX REQUEST

SUBJECT - Martin Luther lang Jr

ANALYST - Harp EXT - 5725 TEAM 1 -

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WORK SHEET - KI:BOX REQUEST

SUBJECT · Martin Latter King Jr.
PILE 1 · Martin Latter King Jr.

ANALYST - Harp EXT - 5725 TEAM | - C

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WORK SHEET - KIROX REQUEST

SUBJECT - Martin Lither King Jr.
PILLE 1 - Murkin

ANALYST - 7/ang EXT - 5775 TEAM 1 - C

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	3326	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		2	2				1					Ppu 689100
		LAS VEGAS AT		2	2					 _				Op. 6/9/01
	3328	KAWSAS CITY AT		2	2				41	].				Dya 619104
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	Date 12/25/76	
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SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

5-10-68

REC 1071

Director, FBI (44 38861) -

MURKIN; CR.

11150

Reurtel 5-7-68.

In response to your suggestion, the photograph of James Earl Ray furnished by Patricia Anderson, together with a suitable write up, will be published in the June, 1968, issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.

## ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - Mr. DeLoach (detached)

1 - Mr. Rosen (detached)

1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop memorandum dated 5-9-68, re: ''Murkin; CR.''

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CONT. 151

1968

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

To July

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE STICK
COMMUNICATION SECTION
MAY 7 196

#### TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

557PM URGENT 5-7-68 DGB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (1P)

MURKIN: CR.

Real of the second

Today.

SHELBY COUNTY GRAND JURY, MEMPHIS, TENN., RETURNED INDICTMENT MAY SEVEN INSTANT CHARGING JAMES EARL RAY WITH MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE. NO REQUEST MADE FOR TESTIMONY BY FBI PERSONNEL.

INVESTIGATION AND ELIMINATION OF MISCELLANEOUS SUSPECTS
CONTINUES. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT BUREAU CONSIDER ADVISABILITY
OF PUBLISHING THE PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT OBTAINED FROM
PATRICIA ANDERSON IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE "LAW ENFORCEMENT
BULLETIN."

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P. REC 107

11 MAY 14 1968

END.

LCC

FBI WASH DC

MA. Jones to Richer mine C& # / Lbm 5-9-68

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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#### FBI

/7/	/68
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Transmit the following in	, PLAINTEXT  (Type in plaintext or code)	
ViaTELETYPE	URGENT (Priority)	

TO

DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAC, LOS ANGELES

FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN

RE PHOENIX TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY THREE, LAST, AND NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY FOUR, LAST.

RE TELEPHONE CALLS BY SUBJECT RAY EN ROUTE FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW CRLEANS.

ON MAY THREE, LAST, RECORDS MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE CO., PHOENIX, ARIZONA, REFLECT ONLY NEW ORLEANS CALL FROM PHONE BOOTHS IN RE EL PASO TELETYPE FOR DECEMBER FIFTEEN, SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN, WAS CALL ON DECEMBER SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, HADE FROM SEVEN SEVEN TWO ZERO SIX FOUR SIX IN EL PASO TO TWO EIGHT TWO SEVEN FIVE NINE ONE, NEW CRLEANS.

ON MAY FOUR AND MAY SIX, SIXTYEIGHT, ARNOLD AND ISABELLE THOMAS, NEGROES, THREE FIVE TWO THREE HAMBURG ST., NEW CRLEANS, WHO HAVE TELEPHONE TWO EIGHT TWO - SEVEN FIVE NINE ONE LISTED TO THEM, WERE INTERVIEWED CONCERNING CALL FROM EL PASO, TEXAS, Buckeys

<u>r() -</u>	New Orleans
í -	Memphis

Phoenix

**EX**-116

l - El Paso JCM:epk/

ecid Coent in Charge

# FBI

Date:

smit	t the following in
	(Priority)
	(Priority)
	MO 157-10673
	PAGE TWO
	ON DECEMBER SIXTERN, SIXTYSEVEN. THOMAS AND WIFE COULD NOT
	RECALL ABOVE PHONE CALL, BUT STATED PERHAPS THEIR SON, ARNOLD
	THOMAS, JR., HAD MADE PHONE CALL. THOMAS, JR., RESIDES ONE
	FIVE ZERO EAST ONE ONE SIX PLACE, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
	LOS ANGELES LOCATE AND INTERVIEW ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR.
	DETERMINE IF HE MADE PHONE CALL ON DECEMBER SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVER
	AIRMAIL COPIES MEMPHIS, PHOENIX AND EL PASO.
	ARMED AND DANGEROUS.
۸	oproved: M Per
Ар	Special Agent in Charge

1 - Mr. McGowan, 2712

1 - Mr. Conrad

l - Mr. Griffith

l - Mr. Mortimer

5/7/68

#### PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

RELAAIRTEL MAY THREF LAST SUBMITTING AIR TRAVEL
CREDIT CARD AND TWO AIRLINE TICKETS. DIFFERENCES WERE NOTED
BETWEEN THE HAND PRINTING AND CARL RAY SIGNATURES ON CREDIT
CARD WHEN COMPARED WITH KNOWN HANDWRITING OF SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY. LIMITED NATURE OF QUESTIONED MATERIAL
PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

RESULTS OF LATENT EXAMINATION OF CREDIT CARD AND OTHER ITEMS SUBMITTED WILL BE FURNISHED SEPARATELY. AIRMAIL COPIES SENT TO MEMPHIS, DENVER AND EL PASQ.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) - Airmail

1 - Denver (157-203) - Airmail

1 - El/Paso ( - Airmail

DeLoach Mohr ..... NOTE FOR MEMPHIS: No Laboratory report will be submitted regarding the results of the examination set out above.

JHM:mb (9)

VIA TELETYPE

MAY 7 1968

ENCIPHERED 10

W S

EX-116

//

MAY 10 1968

RECEIVED CUNRAD THE HELD

HAY 7 11 24 AM 166

TAIL THE DIVISION

TAY 7 12 27 PM ..

FBI

Date: 5/3/68

	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Vio AIRTEL	AIR MAIL - REGISTERED	
	(Friority)	

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN .

Enclosed for the Bureau for latent fingerprint examinations with those of JAMES EARL RAY and for hand-writing comparison with samples previously furnished in this matter are the following items:

- (1) Frontier Airlines, 30 Day Temporary Air Travel Credit Card No. 31088 dated 4/26/68 and issued to Mr. CARL RAY, Ray Land and Cattle Company, Route 4, Box 868, Pecos, Texas.
- (2) One Frontier Airlines, Incorporated passenger ticket dated 5/1/68 issued to Mr. C. RAY, ticket number 1 028 201829753 6.
- (3) Frontier Airlines, Incorporated ticket dated 5/1/68 issued to Mrs. C. RAY, ticket number 1 028 201829754 0.

These enclosures were furnished by JOAN KEPP, United Airlines Ticket Agent, Los Angeles International Airport, to SA HOWARD A. PAULSEY. She was the only airline personnel who handled the enclosures. Enclosures are to be returned to Los Angeles for teturn to United Airlines, Los Angeles.

4 - Bureau (Encl. 3) (AM) (RM)
1 - Denver (Info)
1 - El Paso (Info)
1 - Memphis (Info)
1 - Los Angeles
WSB/dlp
(8)

CAREON CORN

Approved:	Sent	M	Per	
Spacial Agent in Charge				

IA 44-1574 This date, KEPP furnished the following information to SA HOWARD A. PAULSEY: Individual attempted to exchange enclosed tickets for a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii and used enclosed Frontier Airlines Credit Card. KEPP took the tickets and the credit card and told the individual she would have to check the credit card. Individual had previously asked KEPP if he could use two Frontier Airlines tickets, enclosed, as credit toward ticket to Honolulu. Individual identified himself as Mr. RAY. KEPP and two United Airlines employees who viewed Mr. RAY furnished the following description: Race White Sex Male 6 feet 185 pounds Height Weight Age 35 - 40 years Hair Dark or golden blond Eyes Greenish-blue Other investigation, Los Angeles International Airport, this date, negative to locate person using Menclosed credit card. Photos JAMES EARL RAY exhibited to United Airlines employees and they advised photos somewhat similar to RAY but could make no positive identification. Inquiry at El Paso, Texas reflects credit card is apparently fictitious. Denver, Las Vegas and Albuquerque Divisions all attempting to identify holder of credit card and purchaser of Frontier Airlines tickets. - 2 -2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

F B I

Date:

5/7/68

PLAINTEXT Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_ (Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE URGENT

DIRECTOR (AIRMAIL)

TO: OMAHA

FROM: PHOENIX (44-371) (2P)

MURKIN, CR. OO MEMPHIS.

NEWARK BY TELETYPE MAY SIX LAST ADVISED THAT MR. AUSTIN VOLDRIDGE, FOUR FIVE ZERO KINGS HIGHWAY, MIDDLETON, NEW JERSEY, CONTACTED THE NEWARK OFFICE STATING THAT ON HIS WAY TO WORK ON MAY ONE LAST HE HAD SEEN A MAN WHO WAS THE "SPITTING IMAGE" OF JAMES EARL RAY DRIVING A LATE MODEL WHITE CHEVROLET BEARING ARIZONA LICENSE EITHER JPA FOUR ZERO ONE OR JPA FOUR ZERO NINE AND THAT THE RIGHT FRONT FENDER OF THIS VEHICLE WAS CRUSHED NEAR THE HEADLIGHT.

JPA FOUR ZERO ONE HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. THE LAST REGISTERED OWNER IN ARIZONA OF LICENSE JPA FOUR ZERO NINE IS FOR FIFTYFIVE FORD FOUR DOOR SEDAN IN NAME RICHARD S. SNYDER FORMERLY OF TUCSON, WHO FILED WITH POST OFFICE FORWARDING ADDRESS AUGUST FOURTEEN SIXTYSEVEN OF GENERAL DELIVERY, CAMBRIDGE, NEBRASKA, ZIP SIX NINE ZERO TWO TWO. EX-116 ZIP SIX NINE ZERO TWO TWO.

OMAHA AT CAMBRIDGE, NEBRASKA WILL LOCATE AND INTERVIEW

KFJ:lss	•	1	Phoenix		AND MARKET	لاهبرمهد عقابية	6.25
(3)	A3.2	1	Memphis (AM)	11	MAY 9	1968	
Approved:	100		_ Sent	<u>M</u>	Per _		

Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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11/10/1

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PAGE TWO PX 44-371

RICHARD S. SNYDER AND DETERMINE IF HE MIGHT BE IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT RAY AND IF HE NO LONGER HAS THIS LICENSE PLATE, ASCERTAIN DISPOSITION OF SAME.

(Priority)

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAY 71368

### TELETYPE

-1 1

FBI WASH DC

FBI CHICAGO

322 PM DEFERRED 5/7/68 PAK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS, LOS ANGELES (44-1574), PHOENIX, LAS VEGAS, DENVER (157-203) ALBUQUERQUE, AND EL PASO. FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 2P

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TEL MAY FOUR LAST REGARDING INTERVIEW

AT LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MAY THREE LAST CONCERNING

CALL BY UNITED AIRLINES (UAL) PERSONNEL DESCRIBING INDIVIDUAL

AS POSSIBLE LOOK A LIKE OF JAMES EARL RAY.

FOLLOWING UAL FLIGHTS CHECKED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS
MAY SIX LAST RELATIVE TO TRAVEL OF CARL RAY, DENVER TO
LAS VEGAS OR LOS ANGELES MAY ONE AND TWO LAST.

ONE SIX THREE BOTH DAYS, TWO FOUR ONE, MAY ONE, TWO FOUR THREE, MAY TWO, THREE FIVE NINE, MAY ONE, EIGHT FIVE SEVEN, MAY TWO.

EX-116

REC- 69

NO RECORD AVAILABLE FLIGHTS ONE SIX NINE AND EIGHT

END PAGE ONE

66MAY 1 51968

11/6

Meson from the control of

with the second control of

PAGE TWO

THE BUREAU AND ALL OFFICES NOTE UAL MAINTAINS NOR
PREPARES PASSENGER MANIFEST AS SUCH. ONLY RECORD OF
FLIGHT IS PORTION OF TICKET TAKEN FROM PASSENGER JUST
PRIOR TO BOARDING AIRCRAFT. THESE FORWARDED UAL HEADQUARTERS
DAILY WHERE THEY BECOME KEYPUNCHED IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL
AND ARE SOMETIMES UNAVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION FOR SIX OR SEVEN
DAYS.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

AM COPY BIRMINGHAM.

END

JMS

FBI WASH DC

P

AY 7 4 28 PH %

FBI

Date: 5/8/68

	AIRTEL		e) :	Į.
	AIRIED	(Priority)		
	то:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)		
	FROM:	SAC, CLEVELAND (44-1987) (P)		
	RE:	MURKIN		
		Re Bureau teletype to Clevelan	a 5/7/68.	
	ROBERT ( in the p indicate	nt, advised on 5/8/68, that he OMROY, who has contacted his De ast with solutions to Alliance is that COMROY is a "nut" on crily supplying police agencies wi	partment repeat police cases. Co minal cases and	edly OWEN is
	his dry over the the strathis man he had a televisi was not	Mr. ELMER HUDSON, Pharmacist, To vised on 5/8/68, that he recall store at approximately 8:30 P.M. magazine rack. Since business nger for several minutes and was was definitely not JAMES EARL Reen RAY's picture in the local on and was positive that the maidentical to RAY.  au his (44-1987)	urner Drug Store ed a stranger con 5/7/68 and was slow, he was sof the opinion AY. HUDSON starpapers as well a	e, Allian oming int d looking atched n that ted that as on
3	his dry over the the stre this man he had s televist was not  3 Bure 2 - Mem	Mr. ELMER HUDSON, Pharmacist, To vised on 5/8/68, that he recall store at approximately 8:30 P.M. magazine rack. Since business nger for several minutes and was was definitely not JAMES EARL Reen RAY's picture in the local on and was positive that the maidentical to RAY.  au his (44-1987)	urner Drug Store ed a stranger con 5/7/68 and was slow, he was sof the opinion AY. HUDSON starpapers as well a	e, Allian oming int d looking atched n that ted that as on
<u> </u>	his dry over the the stra this man he had a televisi was not  Bure 2 - Mem 2 - Clev  JEG:sls	Mr. ELMER HUDSON, Pharmacist, The vised on 5/8/68, that he recall store at approximately 8:30 P.M. magazine rack. Since business anger for several minutes and was definitely not JAMES EARL Reen RAY's picture in the local on and was positive that the maidentical to RAY.  au his (44-1987) eland	urner Drug Store ed a stranger con 5/7/68 and was slow, he was sof the opinion AY. HUDSON starpapers as well a	e, Allian oming int d looking atched n that ted that as on
	his dry over the the stra this man he had a televist was not 2 - Mem 2 - Clev JEG:sls (7)	Mr. ELMER HUDSON, Pharmacist, The vised on 5/8/68, that he recall store at approximately 8:30 P.M. magazine rack. Since business anger for several minutes and was was definitely not JAMES EARL Reen RAY's picture in the local on and was positive that the maidentical to RAY.  au his (44-1987) eland	urner Drug Store ed a stranger con 5/7/68 and was slow, he was sof the opinion AY. HUDSON starpapers as well a	e, Allian oming int d looking atched n that ted that as on
~	his dry over the the stra this man he had a televisi was not  Bure 2 - Mem 2 - Clev  JEG:sls	Mr. ELMER HUDSON, Pharmacist, The vised on 5/8/68, that he recall store at approximately 8:30 P.M. magazine rack. Since business anger for several minutes and was was definitely not JAMES EARL Reen RAY's picture in the local on and was positive that the maidentical to RAY.  au his (44-1987) eland	urner Drug Store ed a stranger con 5/7/68 and was slow, he was sof the opinion AY. HUDSON starpapers as well and in his drug	e, Allian oming int d looking atched n that ted that as on

25/1/2015

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5 - 735 August

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		FBI
		Date: 5/8/68
ınsmit	the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)
	AIRTEL	
		(Priority)
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM:	SAC, PITTSBURGH (44-578) (P)
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN
		Re Dallas teletype to Bureau, dated 4/30/68.
	on 12/15/ to contac mother an her husba the babys shown pho	On 5/1/68, Mrs. BEATRICE WALTERS, subscriber to #833-0744, was interviewed and advised that 67, her mother, LILLIAN LINNERT, had attempted ther by telephone from Marathon, Texas. Her d father were on vacation at the time. She and nd were not at home at the time of the call and itter related the information to them. She was tographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated she had n him before.
-	and verif	On 5/7/68, Mrs. LILLIAN LINNERT was contacted ied the above information.
		ARMED AND DANGEROUS.
	3-Bureau 2-Dallas 2-Memphis 2-Pittsbu	(AM)
	WLC:psa (9)	rgh REC- 63
-	5	MAY 9 1968
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FBI

Date: 5/8/68

mit the follo	wing in			i
AIRTEL	(Type in plaintext or code)  AIR MAIL			1
		(Priority)	)	
	DIRECTOR, FBI (			
FROM:	A SAC, SAN FRANCISC	00 (173-65)	-P-	
SUBJECT	MURKIN CR 00: Memphis			
call to	Re Atlanta airtel San Francisco, 4/30		d S <b>acramento</b> t	elephone
State of reported blue in was reported Department	The Sacramento Of fornia Highway Patr of facilities, that to a California subsequent of the State of the Stat	rol had determ the only vehic went to March tate of Georgi rgia license 2 the Oakland, C land file #68-	ined through t le recovered i 23, 1968 which a was a 1964 V D9042. This v alifornia Poli 17608, and was	heir n the was olkswage ehicle ce regis-
his file file ref file ref Third Avenue the ft of was regarded the file reflects Hospital at the file treatment	On May 2, 1968, I Oakland, California #68-17608 to SA RO Flects that GEORGE Frenue, Apt. 107, Oak the automobile beatstered to his mothers that GEORGE WAAS was, Oakland, Californain gate of the host that WAAS reported the ded that the vehicle	a Police Depar DBERT U. MANN. H. WAAS, male, cland, Califor aring Georgia er, HELEN B. Was a patient hia, and that spital while Wathat upon leav	tment, made av A review of residing at 1 nia, reported license 2D9042 AAS. This rep at Oak Knoll N the vehicle wa AAS was underg	ailable this 521 the which ort aval s parked oing
2 - Mem	eau (RM) his (44-1987) (RM) Francisco	.EC- <b>31</b>	Alt green	
l - Bessyn	.!			

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SF 173-65 MTG:bja

Records of the Oak Knoll Naval Hospital reflect that GEORGE WAAS was admitted to the hospital on 2/10/68. He is presently a patient, is a seaman, serial number USN date of birth in Tennessee.

In view of the fact that this vehicle was stolen in Oakland, California rather than in the State of Georgia, no additional investigation will be conducted.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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le viev of the fact that this venione was trained to the State of Cantain. Le additional investigation will in additional investigation will in addition.

GENERAL TRUES TRATIVE May 10 3 57 PH 189

FBI WASH DC

FBI BIRMGHAM

250 PM URGENT 5-8-68 JGA

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, AND MEMPHIS

FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 9 PAGES

MURKIN

THOMAS BRITTON, HALEYVILLE, ALABAMA, REINTERVIEWED IN DEPTH CONCERNING KNOWLEDGE OF JAMES EARL RAY. BRITTON ADVISED HE WAS RECEIVED IN MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY SEPTEMBER SIXTYFIVE, AND AFTER PERIOD OF QUARANTINE, ASSIGNED TO "J" HALL DURING NOVEMBER SIXTYFIVE. FIRST MADE ACQUAINTANCE OF RAY, WHO WAS ALREADY ASSIGNED TO J HALL, AS THE "WALK BOY". ADVISED RAY'S DUTIES AS REC 36 WALK BOY WERE TO TAKE ORDERS FOR CIGARETTES, CANDY, ETC., WHICH COULD BE PURCHASED WITHIN PRISON, AND TO BRING HOT WATER TO PRISONERS. SAID RAY ONLY WALK BOY IN J HALL AND THEREFORE WAS FREE TO CONTACT ANY INMATES AND COULD MOVE THROUGHOUT HALL FREELY. STATED FIRST CONVERSATION WITH RAY TOOK PLACE WHEN RAY OBSERVED HIM READING BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA POST HERALD NEWSPAPER, WHICH HE HAD SUBSCRIPTION TO WHILE IN PRISON. RAY INQUIRED OF HIM IF HE WAS FROM STATE OF ALABAMA AND SAID HE HAD VISITED OR STAYED IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA AREA IN PAST AND MENTIONED SEVERAL TAVERNS

5/14

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PAGE TWO

LOCATED IN JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, WHICH WERE KNOWN TO BRITTON.

STATED RAY NEVER MENTIONED ANY ASSOCIATES, ACQUAINTANCES, FRIENDS,

RELATIVES OR EMPLOYMENTS, STATE OF ALABAMA. HE ADVISED CONVERSATION

ENDED WITH RAY ASKING HIM IF HE COULD HAVE HIS BIRMINGHAM

NEWSPAPERS WHEN HE FINISHED READING THEM EACH DAY, WHICH WAS

AGREEABLE TO BRITTON. BRITTON ADVISED THEREAFTER RAY CAME

BY HIS CELL EACH EVENING AND PICK UP HIS NEWSPAPER, WHICH HE WOULD

PLACE BETWEEN THE CELL BARS.

HE SAID RAY NEVER DISCUSSED HIS FAMILY, NOR DID HE
EVER INDICATE FROM WHICH PART OF THE UNITED STATES HE CAME.
HE BELIEVED RAY TO BE FROM THE SOUTH ONLY BECAUSE
HE NEVER INDICATED WHERE HE WAS FROM, COUPLED WITH HIS INTEREST IN
A SOUTHERN NEWSPAPER.

HE STATED HE PERSONALLY GAVE RAY HIS PRESENT ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER ON ONE OCCASION, TELLING RAY TO STOP BY SOMETIME IF HE EVER GOT OUT OF PRISON AND THEY WOULD HAVE A DRINK TOGETHER. BRITTON SAID RAY DID NOT ASK HIM FOR HIS ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AND THAT HE MERELY FURNISHED HIM THIS, KNOWING THAT HE WAS DOING A TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE AND MORE THAN LIKELY HE WOULD NEVER AGAIN SEE RAY AFTER HE LEFT PRISON. HE STATED WHEN HE GAVE END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

RAY HIS ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER, RAY REPLIED, "DON'T BE SUR-PRISED IF I CALL YOU UP SOMETIME".

BRITTON SAID RAY WAS A VERY QUIET INDIVIDUAL, SOFT
SPOKEN, NEVER LAUGHED OR ENJOYED A GOOD STORY, SOLEMN FACED, AND
REMAINED TO HIMSELF MOST OF THE TIME. HE WOULD OFTEN
SEE RAY IN THE PRISON YARD AND ON OCCASIONS ATTEMPTED TO STRIKE
UP A CONVERSATION WITH RAY, BUT HE NEVER APPEARED INTERESTED, SO
HE GAVE UP TRYING TO MAKE CONVERSATION.

THE ONLY TOPIC WHICH WOULD AROUSE RAY'S INTEREST

WAS THE SUBJECT OF MONEY. HE STATED ON ONE OCCASION DURING

HIS CONVERSATION WITH RAY, HE WAS TALKING ABOUT HOW HE WAS GOING

TO MAKE BIG MONEY WHEN HE GOT OUT OF PRISON BY ROBBING BANKS, ETC.

HE SAID RAY AT THIS TIME MADE THE STATEMENT, "I HAVE A PLAN AND

WHEN I GET OUT, I AM GOING TO MAKE BIG MONEY, AND IT IS NOT GOING

TO BE ROBBING BANKS." HE ASKED RAY WHAT HIS PLAN WAS,

TO WHICH RAY REPLIED, "THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS OFFERED

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND

HE'S FIVE YEARS PAST DUE". BRITTON SAID HE THEN ASKED RAY WHAT

THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION WAS, TO WHICH HE REPLIED, "I DON'T

END PAGE THREE

KNOW BUT I WILL FIND OUT." BRITTON SAID THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST

AND LAST TIME RAY EVER MENTIONED MARTIN LUTHER KING, NOR DID HE

EVER AGAIN MENTION THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION IN HIS PRESENCE.

HE SAID RAY TOLD HIM HE ALWAYS WORKED ALONE AND THEREFORE
LIMITED THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING CAUGHT AND SAID, "I HAVE GOT A
PLACE PICKED OUT WHERE I CAN HIDE", NEVER MENTIONING WHERE THE
PLACE WAS LOCATED.

BRITTON STATED THERE WAS A PRISON CIGARETTE LOTTERY

GOING ON ALMOST DAILY IN J HALL AND THAT RAY WAS INVOLVED IN THIS

LOTTERY DELIVERING WAGERING TICKETS AS WELL AS PICKING THESE UP

AND WOULD DELIVER THE WINNINGS EACH NIGHT. HE SAID THERE WERE TWO

SEPARATE LOTTERIES IN J HALL, RUN BY TWO INMATES, ONE NAMED JOHNNY

VALENTI AND ANOTHER FROM ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, NAME UNKNOWN,

DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, ITALIAN, AGE FORTYTHREE TO FORTYSIX,

DARK COMPLEXION, WITH GUN SHOT WOUND IN FACE, AND NICKNAME "DAGO".

HE SAID OTHER LOTTERY IN J HALL RUN BY INDIVIDUAL, NICKNAME

"BOSTON", WHO WAS DOING TWENTY YEARS, DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE,

FORTYFIVE YEARS, VERY SHORT, AND OCCUPIED EITHER CELL TWENTY

THREE, TWENTYFOUR OR TWENTYFIVE ON THE FLAG IN J HALL, MEANING

FIRST FLOOR.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT LIKE VALENTI'S ODDS, SO HE ALWAYS
PLACED HIS WAGERS WITH "BOSTON". STATED RAY WOULD HANDLE WAGERS,
SINCE HE COULD TALK TO ANYBODY IN CELL BLOCK AND WAS REIMBURSED
BY VALENTI AND BOSTON FOR THIS SERVICE.

BRITTON ESTIMATED THAT THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY TWO DOZEN
LOTTERIES BEING OPERATED IN MSP WHICH CONSISTS OF FIVE SEPARATE
HALLS HOUSING PRISONERS.

BRITTON SAID THAT HE NEVER SAW RAY RUN NARCOTICS OR HANDLE CONTRABAND AT ANY TIME AND ON ONE OCCASION, RAY SHOWED HIM HIS ARMS TO PROVE THAT HE HAD NEVER BEEN ADDICTED TO NARCOTICS. HE ADDED THAT HE NEVER OBSERVED RAY WITH ANY LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.

BRITTON WAS QUESTIONED CONCERNING THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION2,
AND STATED THIS WAS A PROTECTOR AND ENFORCER ORGANIZATION THAT
OPERATED IN THE PRISON. HE STATED THAT WHILE ENROUTE TO MSP,
HE WAS LODGED IN THE COUNTY JAIL IN SPRINGFIELD, MO. FOR SEVERAL
MONTHS AND BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH A PRISONER, FNU CRAIG, WHOM HE
DESCRIBED AS A "FOUR TIME LOSER." HE SAID THAT CRAIG HAS A BROTHER
WHO IS A DETECTIVE ON THE SPRINGFIELD, MO. PD. HE ADVISED THAT
CRAIG HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED TIME AT MSP AND WAS BEING RETURNED
TO MSP. HE SAID WHEN CRAIG LEARNED HE ALSO WAS ENROUTE TO MSP,
END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

HE ADVISED HIM TO JOIN THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION AT MSP SINCE

HE WOULD NEED TO GET ALONG WITH PRISONERS AND BY BEING A MEMBER,

HE COULD OBTAIN "SPECIAL FAVORS". CRAIG ALSO INFORMED HIM THAT

THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD SETTLE ANY GRIEVANCES HE MAY HAVE

AGAINST OTHER PRISONERS AND THAT THIS WAS A VERY POWERFUL ORGANIZATION AT MSP, HAVING INFLUENCE WITH GUARDS AND COULD EVEN ARRANGE

"A MURDER."

BRITTON SAID AFTER QUARANTINE, HE SAW CRAIG, WHO WAS WORKING
IN MESS HALL AT MSP. HE APPROACHED CRAIG AND TOLD HIM HE DESIRED
TO JOIN THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION AND GAVE HIM A TEN DOLLAR CANTEEN
BOOK, POINTING OUT THAT MEMBERSHIP FEE TO JOIN WAS TEN DOLLARS,
WHICH WOULD LAST AS LONG AS AN INDIVIDUAL WAS IN PRISON. CRAIG
ADVISED BRITTON THAT HE WOULD GET HIM HIS MEMBERSHIP, AND THE SAME
NIGHT, JAMES EARL RAY CAME TO HIS CELL AND SAID, "HERE IS YOUR
CARD", AND NOTHING ELSE, AND THEREFORE HE ALWAYS FELT RAY WAS A
MEMBER SINCE HE WAS SO TRUSTED. RAY NEVER SAID HE WAS A MEMBER,
NOR DID HE ASK HIM.

HE SAID THIS MEMBERSHIP CARD WAS TYPE-WRITTEN WITH HIS NAME ON IT AND HAD THE HEADING THEREON "MEMBERSHIP, COOLEY'S CLUB". HE SAID THAT THIS CARD WAS LIKE A CREDIT CARD AND IT COULD GET A END PAGE SIX

PAGE SE VEN

PERSON CREDIT OR PURCHASED OF CANDY, ETC., BUT COULD NOT BE USED FOR CREDIT WITH LOTTERIES.

BRITTON SAID THAT HE HAD TWO OR THREE DIFFERENCES WITH PRISONERS OVER WAGERS AND UPON GETTING NO SATISFACTION, HE PERSONALLY
CONTACTED FNU CRAIG IN THE MESS HALL, AT WHICH TIME HE DISPLAYED
HIS MEMBERSHIP CARD AND FILED HIS COMPLAINT WITH CRAIG. CRAIG
INFORMED HIM THAT HE WOULD HANDLE THIS GRIEVANCE; HOWEVER, THE
FEE FOR HANDLING A GRIEVANCE WAS FIFTY PERCENT OF WHAT WAS DUE
A PRISONER. HE SAID THAT SUBSEQUENTLY RAY APPEARED AT HIS
CELL WITH HIS SHARE OF THE CIGARETTES COLLECTED FROM HIS GRIEVANCE.

HE ADDED THAT CRAIG WAS LATER TRANSFERRED FROM THE MESS HALL TO THE CHURCH FARM OUTSIDE THE PRISON WALL. HE SAID THAT PRIOR TO CRAIG'S DEPARTURE, CRAIG CONTACTED HIM AND INSTRUCTED HIM WHO TO SEE TO TAKE CARE OF FUTURE COMPLAINTS IN THE MESS HALL, BUT BRITTON WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY DESCRIPTION OR NAME OF THIS INDIVIDUAL SINCE HE NEVER FILED COMPLAINT WITH HIM AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO THE RENZ FARM LOCATED OUTSIDE THE PRISON.

HE ADDED THAT THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WAS OPERATING WHEN HE ARRIVED AND WAS STILL DOING BUSINESS WHEN HE DEPARTED AND HE FELT THIS OPERATION HAD BEEN STARTED BY "OLD CONS WHO ARE NOW END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

TRUSTIES AND WHO RESIDE IN A HALL WHICH IS TRUSTY BARRACK".

HE SAID THAT DURING THE TIME RAY WAS ASSIGNED TO J HALL, HE ATTEMPTED AN ESCAPE, WHICH WAS UNSUCCESSFUL, AND THEREAFTER HE NEER SAW RAY AGAIN, SINCE RAY WAS NOT RETURNED TO J HALL AND HE WENT TO RENZ FARM.

BRITTON SAID THAT THE INMATES LOCATED ON EITHER SIDE OF HIS CELL IN J HALL, FNU SPRATT, CELL ONE EIGHTYSEVEN, AND GENE LNU, CELL ONE NIMETY, ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE AND OVERPOWERED GUARD, TAKING GUARD'S UNIFORM, THEN MADE SUCCESSFUL ESCAPE. ADVISED THAT INMATE, NAME UNKNOWN, WHO OCCUPIED CELL ONE EIGHTY NINE, WAS LOTTERY PLAYER AND THAT POSSIBLY INMATE, NAME UNKNOWN, NICKNAME "COWBOY", HOLDING TENDER IN CHARGE OF CONVICTS J HALL, COULD POSSIBLY FURNISH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING RAY AND THE COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION.

KANSAS CITY, ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY INMATES FNU CRAIG, FNU SPRATT, GENE LNU, "COWBOY", "BOSTON", "DAGO", ALL INMATES J HALL, AND DESCRIBED ABOVE. WILL INTERVIEW EACH INMATE CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF RAY AND IF NO LONGER INCARCERATED, OBTAIN ADDRESS OF RECORD AND SET FORTH LEADS TO HAVE THEM INTERVIEWED. PROTECT IDENTITY OF BRITTON WHEN INTERVIEWS ARE CONDUCTED AND IN ANY LEADS SET FORTH.

END PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

BIRMINGHAM, DURING INTERVIEW WITH BRITTON, INFORMED HIM OF
THE POSSIBILITY OF PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED, BUT NO SPECIFIC
AMOUNT STATED. HE APPEARS TO BE SOMEWHAT INTERESTED; HOWEVER
STATED NOT INTERESTED IN POSTED REWARD BECAUSE HE FEARED "COOLEY
ORGANIZATION IF IT WERE CLAIMED.

BIRMINGHAM MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACT WITH BRITTON FOR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, COUPLED WITH FACT RAY MAY ATTEMPT CONTACT.

BIRMINGHAM OBTAINING TOOL CALLS ON BRITTON'S TELEPHONE AND WILL

INTERVIEW BRITTON'S WIFE THIS DATE. TAVERNS MENTIONED BY RAY AS

HAVING BEEN FREQUENTED BY RAY IN THE PAST BEING CONTACTED.

NO ATTEMPT BEING MADE TO VERIFY NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION AS

THIS WOULD ALERT PRESS. JAMES BROWN EX-CONVICT BEING REINTERVIEWED.

END

SAA

FBI WASH DC

Р

## FΒΙ

		Date: <b>5/8/68</b>
ınsmi	t the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)
	AIRTEL	
		(Priority)
 	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM ; A VA	SAC, MIAMI (44-1854)
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN CR
	long dist on Inters	Re Houston airtel to Bureau, 5/3/68, and ance phone calls placed at each public telephone tate 10.
	Interstat tance cal	Referenced airtel set forth various long disephone calls made from each public telephone on e 10 between 12/15-17/67. One of these long disls was made from a telephone at Vidor, Texas, #769-9108 to Immokalee, Fla., telephone #813-
	SA ERNEST	The following investigation was conducted by HARRISON, JR., at Immokalee, Fla., on 5/7/68:
	Vidor, Te call from such a ca stated he Farr, Tex is possib	Mr. CHARLES MARKLE, Foreman, H. L. Hunt Packing phone 657-3181, advised he has never heard of xas, and does not recall receiving a telephone there on 12/15/67, and has no way of checking 11 to determine the identity of the caller. He was lining up a crew in and around McAllen and as during the middle of December, 1967, and it le that a business call was made in that regard, ses not recall it.
		(44-1509) (44-1987) REC- 69
	(7)	25 MAY 10 1968
L	C. C. E Big	hop STX
App	proved:	SentM Per Migent in Charge

AECEIVEU MACALINVESTIGA (VE Biologica)

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MM 44-1854

In view of the above, no further investigation is being conducted by the Miami Division in efforts to identify the caller in this matter.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

C 14 V

FBI WASH DC

FRI MEMPHIS

3030 303PM DEFERRED 5-8-69 MCP

TO DIRECTOR 44-39961 AND SACRAMENTO 100-427 FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 2 P

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA AIRTEL TO BURFAU APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST AND SACRAMENTO AIRTEL TO BUUEAU MAY SIX LAST.

RE: POSSIBLE MENTAL CONDITION OF SUBJECT.

ALTHOUGH THE SUGGESTION MADE IN RE ATLANTA AIRTEL HAD

MERIT, THIS SUGGESTION WAS MADE PRIOR TO THE ECOTOMISTICATION

OF JAMES EARL RAY AS SUBJECT OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

ALTHOUGH RAY CONSULTED A PSYCHIATRIST IN LOS ANGELES, 10 MAY 10 1968 CALIF., SUBSEQUENT TO HIS ESCAPE FROM PRISON AND WHILE IN PRISON SOUGHT PSYCHIATRIC HELP ON ONE OCCASION, INVESTIGATION TO DATE INTO RAY'S BACKGROUND HAS FAILED TO REVEAL ANY INFORMATION TO INDICATE HE HAS EVER BEEN CONFINED TO A MENTAL INSTITUTUION

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